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RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY  
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 7376  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 1195  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1808  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 3075  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 8474  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 7956  
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SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR, EAP/J, EAP/P,  
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USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;  
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CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;  
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - PRESIDENT OBAMA'S TRIP TO JAPAN AND  
NORTH KOREA

11. LEAD STORIES: Most Thursday morning papers gave top play to open  
hearings held yesterday by Government Revitalization Unit teams  
concerning budget request items, saying that some 50 billion yen for  
10 projects was identified as "waste" and needs to be eliminated.

12. "Will to Manage Alliance to Be Tested" On President Obama's  
planned summit with Prime Minister Hatoyama, the liberal Asahi  
editorialized (11/12): "Neither the U.S. nor Japan is planning to  
take up the issue of Futenma relocation as a major topic for  
discussion in the summit. Instead, both sides agreed to seek an  
expedited settlement of the relocation issue at a cabinet-level  
consultation forum. While it is not desirable for the whole summit  
to be spoiled over this issue ... perhaps Prime Minister Hatoyama  
should explain [to the President] the difficulty and complexity of  
this issue candidly. Rather than avoiding in-depth discussions, the  
two leaders should exchange views in a serious manner, especially  
because this issue touches upon the core of the bilateral alliance.  
Such an approach is crucial. No matter what decision the prime  
minister makes, it will take a significant amount of political  
energy to achieve a breakthrough. It is necessary for both leaders  
to demonstrate strong political will to settle the matter promptly  
in order to achieve a breakthrough."

13. "U.S. to Send Bosworth to North Korea without Firm Prospects for  
Resumption of Six-Party Talks" The top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri  
wrote (11/12): "The USG has decided to dispatch Special  
Representative for North Korea Bosworth to Pyongyang by the end of  
the year, based on the judgment that the DPRK will return to the  
Six-Party Talks. It is clear that the U.S. announced the visit to  
record a '[diplomatic] accomplishment' ahead of President Obama's  
trip to Asia. It is still uncertain whether the Six-Party Talks will  
resume."

14. "Gap Exists between U.S., North Korea over Motives for Bosworth's  
Visit" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun stated in a report from Seoul  
(11/12): "In the upcoming talks between Bosworth and North Korean  
officials, the U.S. plans to concentrate on the issue of resuming

the Six-Party Talks. The fact that a specific schedule [for the visit] has not been disclosed apparently means that continued coordination will be necessary between the two sides because there is a gap between the motives of the U.S. and those of North Korea, which places priority on improving its relations with the U.S."

ROOS